

ART 19

CLAIMS amended under Article 19(1) (Rule 46)

1. (amended) A steering apparatus for a vehicle, applied to a vehicle which has braking force control means for applying braking force to a predetermined wheel in accordance with motion condition of the vehicle so as to generate a yawing moment for stabilizing the motion condition of the vehicle, equipped with a steerable-wheel steering mechanism which changes the steering angle of steerable wheels of the vehicle in accordance with displacement of a steering member operated by a driver and which generates a quantity related to assist force for assisting the operation of the steering member in accordance with a quantity related to operating force applied to the steering member by the driver and on the basis of a predetermined characteristic, the steering apparatus comprising:

index value obtaining means for obtaining an excessive roll generating tendency index value indicating the degree of a tendency of the vehicle to roll excessively; and

steering characteristic changing means for changing the predetermined characteristic in such a manner that the assist force for a certain operating force applied to the steering member decreases with increase of the degree of the tendency of the vehicle to roll excessively indicated by the obtained excessive roll generating tendency index value.

2. (amended) A steering apparatus for a vehicle, applied to a vehicle which has braking force control means for applying braking force to a predetermined wheel in accordance with motion condition of the vehicle so as to generate a yawing moment for stabilizing the motion condition of the

ART 19

vehicle, equipped with a steerable-wheel steering mechanism which changes the steering angle of steerable wheels of the vehicle in accordance with position of a steering member operated by a driver and on the basis of a predetermined characteristic, the steering apparatus comprising:

index value obtaining means for obtaining an excessive roll generating tendency index value indicating the degree of a tendency of the vehicle to roll excessively; and

steering characteristic changing means for changing the predetermined characteristic in such a manner that the steering angle of steerable wheels for a certain position of the steering member decreases with increase of the degree of the tendency of the vehicle to roll excessively indicated by the obtained excessive roll generating tendency index value.

3. A steering apparatus for a vehicle according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the excessive roll generating tendency index value is a value based on at least one of lateral acceleration, which is a component of acceleration acting on the vehicle in a vehicle-body lateral direction, roll angle of the vehicle, and operating speed of the steering member.